



Colorado for Family Values

For Immediate Release

August 4, 1995

Good afternoon, I am Kevin Tebedo, Executive Director of Colorado for Family Values. On behalf of the Board of Directors and our supporters, I want to thank you for coming to this press conference.

On July 20 a story broke in the Rocky Mountain News that set off a fire storm of activity. What was all the hubbub about? Simply a resolution for community standards being circulated by Colorado for Family Values, the same group responsible for empowering the voters of Colorado by amending the state constitution to prohibit granting special class status to homosexual behavior. From the date of the Rocky Mountain News story until now there has been much speculation and spent ink about the resolution. Drafts of the resolution, and one version we thought was to be the final one, have been circulated and debated.

After receiving a tremendous amount of input from many supporters and concerned citizens, the Community Standards Resolution has been changed from its original wording to better represent what our intentions were from the beginning—that is, not to make demands of our elected authorities, but rather an appeal to them. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to clarify exactly what the Community Standards Resolution is and is not. The idea for the resolution comes from the heart and intentions of Colorado for Family Values and our supporters, so we want to encourage folks to call us directly (as opposed to conjecturing from other people's or group's opinions) if you have any questions or concerns after reading this clarification.

The Community Standards Resolution is:

- An opportunity for the citizens to be heard and understood on the kinds of standards they wish to see used in directing the future of the community.
- An opportunity for elected officials to hear and understand the standards of many of their constituents without spending any money or effort to discover them.
- A resolution adopted by the people and for the people who sign the resolution as a statement of their standards on violence, preservation of the family, homosexuality, and pornography.
- A bold set of standards that reflect the traditional morals and ideals of our nation's beginning.

- Continued -

The Community Standards Resolution is not:

- A demand that our representatives officially vote on adoption of the standards.
- An attempt to tell elected officials what to do.
- A binding law or ordinance which dictates actions for citizens, businesses, or elected officials.
- An attempt to make homosexuality illegal by reinstating a sodomy law.
- A violation of any constitutional or civil rights.
- A condemnation of single parents or broken families.

Thousands of signatures affirming the resolution will be presented to the City Council and County Commissioners, along with a letter requesting that they keep in mind these standards when setting policy, deciding how our tax dollars are to be spent, and when considering what events to officially sanction.

There is no evil intent—no hidden motive in what we are doing. It is merely a simple, but significant, statement about the concerns of a large number of people in El Paso County and Colorado Springs regarding their future.

One must ask, "why would anybody fear this?" It is a fact that the Community Standards Resolution is not a law or legislation. It is a fact that we live in a pluralistic society, a fact we respect. The combination of these facts means that unless Colorado for Family Values can persuade—not impose upon—a majority in El Paso County to agree with the Community Standards Resolution, the resolution will fail. Again, I ask, why would anyone fear bringing ideas to the public square?

We must all understand that it is not a matter of *whether* or not moral standards will be used to guide our future, but rather, *what* or *whose* standards will be used to guide our future. All laws and public policy are based on morality and ethical principles of some fashion. The feeling that America has lost its moral compass is prevalent all across our nation. This Community Standards Resolution is an effort to address this concern.

The Community Standards Resolution represents one possible set of standards. We at CFV want to encourage all El Paso County and Colorado Springs citizens to give much thought to the issues raised in the Community Standards Resolution.

For more information: Colorado for Family Values
(719) 577-4916

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Community Standards Resolution

WHEREAS, the undersigned acknowledges that the County Commissioners and City Council are officially charged with protection of the safety, health, and welfare of people in the jurisdiction over which they preside; and

WHEREAS, the moral and social safety, health, and welfare of the community are not inherent, but must be planned for and well thought out, as are all other types of community planning; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned believes, that when planning for the moral and social future of the community, elected representatives should advance the standards of this document; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned desires that our elected representatives support the standards of the community as articulated below, as those standards relate to pornography, violence, homosexuality, and preservation of the nuclear family; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned acknowledges and affirms the following statements of standards:

Pornography: The community recognizes pornography (to include but not limited to definitions by federal and state laws) to have no social or artistic value whatsoever for our community. Any economic value is immediately offset by the destruction of the family, the degradation of women and children, and the addictions of men—the inevitable by-products of pornography.

Violence: The community understands that the primary cause behind violence in our community is the disintegration of the nuclear family. It is common knowledge that the majority of violent crimes are perpetrated by people who grew up or are growing in broken homes. Keeping the nuclear family in tact as a future deterrent on violent crime is a priority for our community.

Homosexuality: The community does not affirm homosexuality to be a moral, ethical, or legal equal to heterosexuality. It is understood that all citizens of America have equal rights by virtue of their American citizenship; the rights and privileges accorded citizenship do not extend to the *behavior* of homosexuality. Our community must unconditionally advocate heterosexuality only, through our institutions and policies.

Preservation
of the family:

It should be obvious that "love" is not the only thing that defines a family, but rather love as it is exhibited within the historical and reasonable pattern of the nuclear family. It is the standard of this community to put its influence and resources behind the preservation of the nuclear family, defined as a male and a female, morally and legally united as husband and wife; extending to any children of the union and relations. The community is not insensitive nor complacent to the realities of the modern family: divorce, death of a spouse, single parent families. Nevertheless, the community recognizes the nuclear family as the most favorable circumstance under which children are to be conceived and reared, and desires to preserve the sanctity of this union to the best of our community's ability.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

1. The undersigned wishes for elected representatives to openly and vigorously support the above community standards and not enact policies, create ordinances/laws, or spend appropriated dollars in a manner which is repugnant to these community standards; and
2. The undersigned requests that elected officials not fund activities which seek to contravene these community standards; and
3. The undersigned calls upon all community leaders, elected officials and policy makers to support these standards; and
4. The undersigned believes that, while this resolution is not legally binding in any fashion, it effectively serves as guiding principles in planning for the moral and social future of the community, and that it will aid in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and
5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned supports the constitutional and civil rights of all citizens, but also recognizes that constitutional and civil rights are not self-defined. The undersigned requests that these standards be used in the decision-making process in formulating public policy.

Petition for a Community Standards Resolution

HEREAS, the undersigned acknowledges that the County Commissioners and City Council are officially charged with protection of the safety, health, and welfare of people in the jurisdiction over which they preside; and

HEREAS, the moral and social safety, health, and welfare of the community are not inherent, but must be planned for and well thought out, as are all other types of community planning; and

HEREAS, the undersigned believes, that when planning for the moral and social future of the community, elected representatives should advance the standards of this document; and

HEREAS, the undersigned desires that our elected representatives support the standards of the community as articulated below, as those standards relate to pornography, violence, homosexuality, and preservation of the nuclear family; and

HEREAS, the undersigned acknowledges and affirms the following statements of standards:

Pornography: The community recognizes pornography (to include but not limited to definitions by federal and state laws) to have no social or artistic value whatsoever for our community. Any economic value is immediately offset by the destruction of the family, the degradation of women and children, and the addictions of men—the inevitable by-products of pornography.

Violence: The community understands that the primary cause behind violence in our community is the disintegration of the nuclear family. It is common knowledge that the majority of violent crimes are perpetrated by people who grew up or are growing up in broken homes. Keeping the nuclear family intact as a future deterrent on violent crime is a priority for our community.

Homosexuality: The community does not affirm homosexuality to be a moral, ethical, or legal equal to heterosexuality. It is understood that all citizens of America have equal rights by virtue of their American citizenship; the rights and privileges accorded citizenship do not extend to the behavior of homosexuality. Our community must uncon-

ditionally advocate heterosexuality only, through our institutions and policies.

Preservation of the family: It should be obvious that "love" is not the only thing that defines a family, but rather love as it is exhibited within the historical and reasonable pattern of the nuclear family. It is the standard of this community to put its influence and resources behind the preservation of the nuclear family, defined as a male and a female, morally and legally united as husband and wife; extending to any children of the union and relations. The community is not insensitive nor complacent to the realities of the modern family: divorce, death of a spouse, single parent families. Nevertheless, the community recognizes the nuclear family as the most favorable circumstance under which children are to be conceived and reared, and desires to preserve the sanctity of this union to the best of our community's ability.

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2. The undersigned requests that elected officials not fund activities which seek to contravene these community standards; and
3. The undersigned calls upon all community leaders, elected officials and policy makers to support these standards; and
4. The undersigned believes that while this resolution is not legally binding in any fashion, it effectively serves as guiding principles in planning for the moral and social future of the community, and that it will aid in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and
5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned supports the constitutional and civil rights of all citizens, but also recognizes that constitutional and civil rights are not self-defined. The undersigned requests that these standards be used in the decision-making process in formulating public policy.

(Petition Carrier: Please fill in below; do not detach)

Name: _____ Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Male/female: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

I adopt the community standards resolution stated above as a representation of my standards. I respectfully request that the City Council/County Commissioners use these standards as guiding principles when making policy and planning the future of Colorado Springs and El Paso County.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

We, the undersigned, adopt the community standards resolution stated on the reverse as a representation of our standards. We respectfully request that the City Council/County Commissioners use these standards as guiding principles when making policy and planning the future of Colorado Springs and El Paso County.

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

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Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

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Signed: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ M / F Age: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____